

## **Common Council Meeting minutes, June 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Mayor John Rawson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council attending: C. Ekern, P. Syverson, J. Anderson, J. Tranberg, J. Rawson. Others in attendance: Attorney-Mark Radcliffe, Trempealeau County Times-Andrew Dannehy, Trempealeau County Land Management-Anne Hempel, Bridget Stendahl, Dave Quarne, Mike & Jaime Ressel, Streets Manager-Andy Graff, Water & Sewer Manager- Joshua Greenwold, Clerk/Treasurer-Debi Fremstad

Public Comment: C. Ekern – city needs to acquire the aerial prints sitting in the bank basement.

**Motion by J. Anderson to approve May 1 council minutes and May 10 special council minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

**Motion by P. Syverson to accept and place on file the minutes for the Park Committee meeting on 5/3/23, the Public Property & Buildings meeting on 5/15/23, the Police & Ordinance meeting on 5/15/23, the Streets, Lights, & Equipment meeting on 5/24/23, and the Water & Sewer meeting on 5/24/23, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Tranberg. Discussion: Attorney Radcliffe- the council needs to be aware that because of the commercial property on Mill Rd, the council now has been placed on a high hazard rating according to the DNR. This means testing will have to be done yearly instead of every 10 years. This should go on next month's agenda. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

911 Addressing – Ann Hempel: The City of Blair and Village of Strum are the only ones in the County that do not have 911 5-digit addresses. This is about locating people in an emergency. Citizens would need to change their addresses and this can be a difficult change. These numbers would fit into the Trempealeau County grid and work with the GIS system. **Motion by C. Ekern to send to the Tax, Finance, & Personnel Committee for costs and planning for project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

The Plan Commission recommended the City Council allow the Quarne and Ressel properties to put up a temporary fence on the north and east side of the property facing the park, as proposed by Dave Quarne, by May 26, 2023. Then the remaining fence to be up by June 2, 2023. There is to be a daily fine of \$1000 in any portion of the fence is not up by the deadlines presented. Attorney Radcliffe stated that because the fence is up, nothing needs to be done at this time unless the council has anything more to add.

**Motion by C. Ekern to open liquor license hearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.** Jeremy Tranberg left his chair at the council. There were no public comments. **Motion by C. Ekern to close liquor license hearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-3, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Liquor license were presented as follows: Amey J. Knopps d/b/a Broadway Bar & Grill, LLC; Lisa J. Blaken d/b/a Wildcat Saloon; Daveed, LLC d/b/a Barnyard Tavern; Jeremy D. Tranberg d/b/a Blair Haus Sports Bar & Grill, LLC; Nathan D. Dahl d/b/a Bullpen Sports Bar; Kwik Trip; J & S Sales of Chippewa Falls, LLC d/b/a Express Mart; Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General.

All owners with the exception of Barnyard Tavern came in and changed their premise description and highlighted a map with their location. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve all liquor licenses application except for Daveeed d/b/a Barnyard Tavern, 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Anderson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-3, Nays-0. Abstain-J. Tranberg. Motion carried. Motion by C. Ekern to table Daveeed’s application until he completes his paperwork, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Anderson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-3, Nays-0. Abstain-J. Tranberg. Motion carried.**

**Motion by C. Ekern the Temporary Class “B” license for the Tranberg Memorial on September 9, 2023, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Server Licenses presented: Jacob Anderegg, Tracey Berg, Molly Berzinski, Thomasina Brothen, Eddie Buhler, Aloura Byrd, Alex Chambers, Luanne Christenson, Nicole Currier, Sally Fieber, Melissa Genna, Tiffany Haury, Holly Hilgart, Lori Hoem, Beverly Johnson, Ashley Joten, Kayla Knopps, Susan Melby, Crystal Moen, Eric Olson, Jennifer Pabst, Wayne Palkowski, Tyler Palkowski, Kelli Qualley, John Rawson, Michael Schock, Brenda Shefelbine, Laura Shefelbine, Dianne Stenberg, Bridgette Stendahl, Kendra Stevens, Danniell Toth, Lorraine Wasserburger, Brooklyn Wells, Beth Willers, Brian Yurske. Chief Johnson had 2 applications recommended for denial – Bridgette Stendahl and Jacob Anderegg. Attorney Radcliffe stated that Bridgette had no pending charges and no convictions-you can’t deny her the license. Jacob Anderegg has his first OWI conviction. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve all server licenses except Jacob Anderegg, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: an OWI is substantially related to serving alcohol. Vote: Ayes-3, Nays-1. Motion carried.**

**Motion by J. Tranberg to accept the resignation of Walker Stoner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: He will have to repay the City \$6000 per his contract. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

2022 CMAR (Compliance Maintenance Annual Report) for the sewer collection system has been completed. An approved resolution is needed to submit the CMAR to the DNR. **Motion by J. Anderson to authorize Resolution 6-5-2023-1 for the CMAR, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Streets, Lights, & Equipment meeting-J. Tranberg: Discussed possibility of a Toolcat/Bobcat/utility tractor, park entrance bollards, and street repairs needed. **Motion by J. Anderson to put up permanent bollards at entrance of park to protect light pole, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by C. Ekern to put Center/Gilbert project out for bids, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Roll vote: C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried. Motion by J. Anderson to approve Maple/Knutson drainage improvement, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: none. Roll vote: C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried. Motion by C. Ekern to get more quotes for city parking lot with City helping out, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Tranberg. Discussion: C.E.-need to find a place for big trucks to park. Roll vote: C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Discussion: none. Motion carried.**

6/5/2023 Regular Council Meeting, page 3

Water & Sewer meeting-P. Syverson: Sewer rates haven't been studied since 2016. Sewer account last year was \$20,000 in the hole. Recommend a 10% increase per year for 5 years and an increase in meter charges. This will start in October with notices going out on the July billing. **Motion by J. Tranberg to raise sewer rates by 10% each year for 5 years as well as a meter charge increase, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Roll vote: C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.** The area above the force main to Whitehall needs to be clean. Landowner's need to be contacted for approval. **Motion by J. Tranberg to accept Aaron Kidd's bid, dependent upon getting permission from landowner's and the ground freezing, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Roll vote: C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.**

City of Blair Ordinance 34.06: Attorney Radcliffe stated this denies any licenses for all delinquent fees. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve creating 34.06 regarding licenses and permits for parties and property with late or delinquent personal property taxes, special assessments, forfeitures, license fees, or any other obligation, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

GEC building permits sent out to council.

**Motion by J. Anderson to pay the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Roll call vote: J. Tranberg-yes, J. Anderson-yes, P. Syverson-yes, C. Ekern-yes. Motion carried.**

Next Common Council Meeting, July 6, 2023

**Motion by C. Ekern to adjourn at 7:57 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-4, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Debra Fremstad, Clerk/Treasurer